**College Application Checklist**

*Items in italics should be completed junior year or in the summer*

**Types of applications**

Early Decision (normally Nov 1 or Nov 15) – bound by acceptance

Early Action (normally Nov 1 or Nov 15) – NOT bound by acceptance

Regular Decision (normally Jan 1) – must answer by May 1

Rolling Admissions Schools – anytime, 6 weeks for an answer

Pennsylvania State Schools – apply by Oct. 31

**JUNIOR YEAR**

**College Board.org , ACTstudent.org –** Test scores and some financial information

* *SAT (and/or ACT) test results requested and paid for – check each school’s requirements*
* *SAT II (subject) or other tests requested and paid for* ***– check each school’s requirements***

**Naviance –** Student-School-College electronic connection and source of information

* ***List of schools you want to apply to (August before Senior year)***
* *Decide if want to apply early action or early decision anywhere (August before Senior year)*
* *Senior Questionnaire under About Me complete (August before Senior year)*
* *(OPTIONAL – parent “brag” sheet on Naviance)*

**WHS Teachers/Guidance counselors**

* *Letter of recommendation requested (by June of junior year)*

**Colleges**

* *Attend a college rep visit at WHS (sign up on Naviance)*
* *Attend Info session outside WHS (info on college website)*
* *Sign up to visit the college, attend a class and take a campus tour*
* *Schedule an interview if the school offers it*
* *OPTIONAL: Schedule an audition if your music/theatre major requires it*

**Financial Aid**

* *Keep good track of your tax information so that you can use it for estimated aid*
* *Try a few colleges “cost calculator” websites to see how much aid you could be eligible for*

**SENIOR YEAR**

**Guidance Office –** School contact

* Make an appointment with Mr. Chris Plentus, the college counselor, and/or your guidance counselor for more information.
* Attend the “wake up call” for seniors and parents in September 2012
* Senior Class Information Release Form (parent signature required)
* Transcript request forms, parent signature plus $1 for each school

(do early decision, early application, or Penn State first)

**School specific application or Common Application.org -** electronic application shared by many schools

* All pages completed
* *Essay uploaded (in English class September Senior year)*
* Check for errors
* Pay and submit
* Supplements for each school completed and uploaded

(suggested: start Aug 1)

**If you are over 18 …**

* For male US citizens only, register with Selective Service
* For all, consider registering to vote

**Financial aid information**

**FAFSA (federal financial aid form) and PHEAA**

* CSS Financial Aid Profile filled out by parents - check each school’s requirements
* Get your FAFSA pin at pin.ed.gov before Jan 1
* With parents, fill out FAFSA form starting Jan 1 of same year you will enter college (you can complete a mock form first)
* With parents, fill out PHEAA form starting Jan 1 of same year you will enter college (after the FAFSA)
* Look for scholarships from private sources